

Claims

- [c1] The instant invention consists of the tip of a typical "pen-cil-like" stylus used as an input device for handheld computing devices continuous with and supplemented by a contoured base support designed to provide an adhesive bonding interface for either a finger tip or a finger nail. The stylus tip, which is constructed of a suitable durable material, typically a hard plastic, is designed to minimize possible damage to the display surface. It is typically 10 millimeters in length and approximately 5 millimeters in diameter at its widest part where upon it is supplemented by a contoured base support, similar in size and shape to a hard contact lens of approximately 10 millimeters in diameter and a few millimeters thick, when attached directly to part or all of a finger tip. When designed to attached to a finger nail the stylus tip is supplemented with more base support as necessary to interface with part or all of a finger nail consistent with the intended implementation.
- [c2] The instant invention can be implemented in at least four versions as depicted in Figure1. In addition, the adhesive bond of a finger stylus when designed to be attached to

a finger nail as depicted in Figure1 version3 and version4 can be extended down to include the finger tip as well and is implementation-dependent.

[c3] The finger tip stylus may temporarily be bonded directly to the finger tip by some suitable adhesive applied by the user or previously applied during production to the inside of the contoured base support as depicted in Figure 1 version 1. The finger tip stylus may be implemented as a single-use, disposable product or as a reusable product with a disposable, single-use adhesive interface.

[c4] The finger tip stylus may temporarily be bonded indirectly by some suitable annular, adhesive pad applied by the user or previously applied during production to the outside of the contoured base support as depicted in Figure 1 version 2. The finger tip stylus may be implemented as a single-use, disposable product or as a reusable product with a disposable, single-use adhesive interface.

[c5] The finger tip stylus may temporarily be bonded directly to part or all of the finger nail by some suitable adhesive applied by the user or previously applied during production to the inside of the contoured base support as depicted in Figure 1 version 3 and version 4. The finger tip

stylus may be implemented as a single-use, disposable product or as a reusable product with a disposable, single-use adhesive interface.

- [c6] The finger tip stylus by design is light weight, less tiresome to use over prolonged periods of time, especially when interfacing with software applications that demand a continuous stream of fine motor user inputs. It is less cumbersome than a finger stylus which surrounds or partly surrounds a finger mechanically using frictional forces or a handheld "pencil-like" stylus typically used with handheld computing devices.
- [c7] The finger tip stylus by design is not easily lost or misplaced and does not need to be cradled in the handheld device. It enhances user efficiency by allowing essentially full use of the hand on which it is attached to accomplish other tasks. Compared to a typical "pencil-like" stylus, it additionally frees the user from alternately picking up or putting down the device to accomplish other pending tasks. It is by design at least as lightweight and as comfortable to wear as a finger tip stylus that surrounds or partly surrounds the finger and is mechanically attached to the finger tip by frictional forces.
- [c8] The instant invention can serve as a user-interface, item-selection tool by providing accurate input position-

ing information, as a writing implement by pressing the thumb up against the index finger in typical handwriting fashion with a finger stylus attached to the index finger and can provide for two finger "touch typing" on the soft keyboard of a handheld device by attaching one finger tip stylus to the index finger and another to the adjacent finger.